

## Joint Economic Committee -- Idaho Economic Snapshot (March 2007)

### MIDDLE CLASS SQUEEZE

#### GAS

	Mar 9, '07	Last Month	Last Year	March, 2001	% Inc. 2001-Today <sup>1</sup>
Avg. Retail Price Per Gallon Unleaded Gasoline	\$2.34	\$2.21	\$2.32	\$1.45	62%

#### CHILD CARE

	2005		2005
Avg. Monthly Fees for Child Care for an Infant	\$413	Avg. Monthly Fees for Child Care for Two Children	\$780

#### K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

	2003-2004	State Rank <sup>2</sup>
Per Pupil Expenditures On Public Elementary and Secondary Education	\$6,028	50

#### HIGHER EDUCATION

	2006-2007	2000-2001	% Inc. 2000-01 to 2006-07
Avg. Four-Year Public College Tuition and Fees	\$3,589	\$2,380	51%
Avg. Four-Year Private College Tuition and Fees	\$5,502	\$12,185	-55%

#### HEALTH INSURANCE

	2004	2003	2002	2001	% Inc. 2001-2004
Avg. Health Care Premium (Single)	\$3,429	\$3,331		\$2,703	27%
Avg. Health Care Premium (Family)	\$8,908	\$8,563		\$6,568	36%

#### HOUSING

	2006	2005	2004		2005 (Monthly)
Existing Home Sales	37,000			Median Housing Costs for Homeowners With a Mortgage <sup>3</sup>	\$996
Median Home Value		\$134,900		Median Housing Costs Homeowners Without a Mortgage <sup>3</sup>	\$285

#### TAXES

Families Impacted by the AMT in 2006 <sup>4</sup>	11,800
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### JOBS

	Jan '07	Dec '06	Nov '06	3-Month Change	2006	2001	Change 2001-2006
Unemployment rate	3.0%	3.2%	3.2%		3.4%	4.9%	
Total Non-Farm Private Employment (Jobs)	651,700	650,800	649,100	2,600	640,625	567,700	72,925
Construction	53,100	54,000	53,700	-600	52,667	37,900	14,767
Manufacturing	67,400	67,100	66,700	700	64,167	68,325	-4,158
Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Services	32,800	32,600	32,400	400	31,892	24,967	6,925
Professional and Business Services	82,500	83,100	82,800	-300	81,300	67,617	13,683
Education and Health Services	71,900	71,800	71,800	100	70,442	56,958	13,483
Leisure and Hospitality Services	62,100	61,800	61,800	300	61,508	53,050	8,458
Government Services	116,900	116,600	116,700	200	116,442	110,117	6,325
New Claims for Unemployment Insurance	8,007	7,612	8,621	-614	89,288	127,733	-38,445
Mass Layoffs <sup>5</sup>	646	1,191	963	-317		17,144	

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### ECONOMIC SECURITY

#### INCOME

	2005	2001
Real Median Household Income (2005 Dollars)	\$44,176	\$42,172

#### HOUSING

	2005	2001		Total Households	% of Households
Homeownership Rate (2006, 2001)	75.1%	71.7%	Housing Costs Greater than 30% of Income (2004)	145,410	28%
Mortgage Delinquency Rate	3%	4.34%	Housing Costs Greater than 50% of Income (2004)	62,669	12%

#### POVERTY

	2005	2001		2005	2001	% Change Since 2001
Poverty Rate	9.9%	11.5%	Non-Business Bankruptcy Filings	11,822	7,957	49%
Child Poverty Rate	18.0%	15.0%				

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

	Beneficiaries	Median Monthly Benefit
Social Security (2005)	146,610	\$988

#### HEALTH INSURANCE

	Total 2005	% of Population		Total 2005	% of Population
Employer-Based Coverage	761,500	54%	Medicare Beneficiaries	141,780	10%
Uninsured	218,070	15%	Medicaid Beneficiaries	168,600	12%
Uninsured Children (Percentage of All Children)	45,120	11%			

Sources: The Joint Center for Housing Studies, Harvard University, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Kaiser Family Foundation, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Data, Social Security Administration, Haver Financial Database, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Association of Realtors, AAA Fuel Gauge Report, Federal Highway Administration

<sup>1</sup> Data for 2001 for Regular Gasoline from Federal Highway Administration "Monthly Motor Fuel Reported by States -- Retail Prices of Motor Fuel", 2006 and 2007 data from AAA Fuel Gauge Report.

<sup>2</sup> The states are ranked from greatest (1) to least (51) expenditure per student, including DC.

<sup>3</sup> From the American Community Survey by the Census Bureau "Median Selected Housing Costs" which includes: payments for mortgages, deeds of trust, contracts to purchase, or similar debts on the property ; real estate taxes; fire, hazard, and flood insurance on the property; utilities; and fuels. It also includes, where appropriate, the monthly condominium fee for condominiums and mobile home costs (installment loan payments, personal property taxes, site rent, registration fees, and license fees).

<sup>4</sup> Number of families that were ensnared by the Alternative Minimum Tax after the passing of legislation in Congress that provided a temporary measure to limit some of the AMT's impact on middle income households in FY 2006.

<sup>5</sup> Number of initial unemployment claimants in layoff actions involving at least 50 employees from a single establishment.